

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

B' 1           12. (currently amended) A Bragg reflector comprising:  
2           one or more first layers adjacent one or more second layers, the first and second layers having  
3           at least one sidewall, wherein the first and second layers define one or more gaps; and  
4           a support layer formed over ~~at least a~~ portion of the sidewalls to support the second layers  
5           against intrusion collapse into the one or more gaps.

1           13. (original) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein the second layers and the  
2           support layer comprise substantially the same material.

1           14. (original) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein at least a portion of the  
2           support layer is electrically conductive.

1           15. (currently amended) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein ~~at least a~~ portion of  
2           the support layer is electrically non-conductive.

1           16. (original) A distributed Bragg reflector comprising:  
2                   a substrate;  
3                   a plurality structure layers on the substrate each spaced apart by a gap, the  
4           structure layers each having edges; and  
5                   a support layer about a portion of the edges for supporting the structure layers.

1           17. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 further comprising  
2   sacrificial layers between the structure layers, the sacrificial layers undercut to define the  
3   gaps.

B<sup>1</sup>  
1           18. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the support layer  
2   comprises a material selected from the group consisting of InP, GaAs, and Si.

1           19. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the structure layers  
2   comprise a material selected from the group consisting of InP, GaAs, and Si.

1           20. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the support layer  
2   covers at least a portion of a top of the structure layers.

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